Himalayan glaciers

1079. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI GANGA CHARAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most Himalayan glaciers are retreating;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (d) As per the studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India the glaciers of Himalayas are receding at varying rates in different regions. As per these findings, recession of glaciers could be the result, *inter-alia* of a natural cyclic process because of which the majority of Himalayan Glaciers may be passing through a phase of recession.

(c) A National Action Plan on Climate Change was launched in June, 2008 which envisages the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system amongst its 8 national missions. This Mission includes understanding phenomena relating, *inter-alia*, to the recession of Himalayan glaciers and the ways of addressing the problem.

A new research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Guidelines and best practices for the governance for sustaining Himalayan Eco-system have been developed and shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

Solid waste management

1080. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that solid waste management in small towns and most of the cities is in a mess and one can find heaps of garbage in the middle and side of the roads;

(b) if so, what kind of management and waste disposal help is being rendered by his Ministry to the civic bodies of those towns; and

(c) what kind of coordination is in place with the States and their civic bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 (MSW Rules, 2000) laying down detailed compliance criteria for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes. As per these rules, the municipal authority is

responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the rules and for any infrastructure development for management of municipal wastes. The municipal authorities are required to seek authorization for setting up of waste processing and disposal facilities including landfills from the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs).

The SPCBs and the Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of the Union Territories are required to prepare and submit an annual report on the implementation status of the rules to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). CPCB reviews annual consolidated report from SPCBs/PCCs for the status of implementation of MSW Rules. Regular interactions with SPCBs/PCCs through meetings and workshops are undertaken to facilitate implementation of Rules.

Financial assistance on cost sharing basis is provided by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for demonstration projects for solid waste management in accordance with MSW Rules, 2000. Ministry of Urban Development is implementing the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) scheme for providing assistance to the Urban Local Bodies for various schemes including for solid waste management.

World Bank Report on global warming

1081. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the World Bank Report, released in Dubai in October, 2009 that this planet will be faced with devastating effects when temperature rises 5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial warming period;

(b) if so, whether Government would try to arrive at a consensus among the nations, when Kyoto Protocol is to be discussed in Copenhagen in December, 2009 so that developing nations like China, India and Brazil etc. are able to achieve the objective that they are not forced to agree to the same targets as are imposed on developed countries as 65 per cent of emission in stock of carbon already in the air came from industrialized nations; and

(c) the details of the steps currently being taken to meet the global warming menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Government is aware of the discussion on World Bank's 'Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change' that took place in Dubai in October, 2009. The Report outlines the World Bank's vision of dealing with challenge of development in a changing climate.

(b) and (c) In the International Negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), India, China and Brazil have actively participated and coordinated their position as members of the Group of 77 and China. They have argued that Parties must take actions in accordance with the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities' of the Convention. Annex-I Parties who bear the